times 1⅛ inches in a foot, and nine times in 13½ inches, the true thickness of a brick-and-half wall.—Ed.]

THE LEICESTER MONUMENT.

Sir,—Seeing in your last week's number a letter in which your correspondent "E. B. T." communicates certain particulars relative to the Leicester Monument, the most important of which was quite at variance with the plan upon which I had been proceeding, I made immediate application to the secretary, from whom I have just received a letter, of which the following is a copy.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

Norwich, November 28, 1843. J. B.

"Sir,—In reply to your inquiry, I beg to state that the advertisement in the London and country papers was drawn up at a meeting of the committee, and was authorised by that body. The committee have not met since, and I am not aware of any other instructions authorised or sanctioned by the committee. I inclose you a copy of the advertisement for your guidance.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"R. N. Bacon, Hon. Sec.

"P.S.—I have inclosed a copy of the advertisement to all gentlemen who have applied to me for instructions."

TRURO COMPETITION.

Sir,—Yourself and *father* "Senex" will, I know, allow me to differ when you two agree to attach no blame to the Architects for "availing themselves of the opportunity" afforded to them in the late Truro Competition.

After having read (with the greatest gratification, I assure you), and assented to the law of competition you appended to my letter, I resolved to be silent; but it is the breaking of that law—and it is one of *honour*—I complained of. Designs are forwarded by many on the specified condition that a certain body of men are to choose the which they will have (either the prettiest picture or the best design, that matters not); is it then honourable, that some of the many should perpetrate a portion of the body in favour of some nice blue sky or finely-painted pig, whilst they know their fellow-competitors would either not stoop to such irregularity or have not the means to MAKE the "opportunity?" The essence of fair competition is the equality of the circumstances of the competitors in it. This is admitted, and therefore we condemn the practice of doing anything which is not equally in the power of all. Talent will then decide—not favour.

Eminence is valuable when attained, and honour is the fair road to it; strip it of this requisite, and behold a naked thing!

I am, &c.,

A Young Chip.

Miscellanea.

New Roasting Jack.—In this age of daily improvements in mechanics, &c. who can view with indifference a new invention, which is calculated to raise the character of our national cuisine in the form of a roasting jack? At the Senior United Service Club is a novel apparatus, used in the kitchen of that club, which is invented by the secretary to the institution, Mr. J. H. Willis. The fire-place of grate is so constructed as to diffuse the greatest possible extent of surface heat; and over it projects a light iron frame, upon which a series of clock wheels worked by a spindle, moved by the smoke as in the common smoke jack, revolve upon a disk. To the machinery connected with these the joints are suspended vertically in any number, according to the extent of the fire-place, and by the uniform motion of the wheels they are properly roasted, requiring, however, but little attention on the part of the attendants. The advantages thus obtained are, that the joints of meat are not disfigured by the marks of the spits, or cradle-spits; the meat swells more gradually; the rich juices are retained to the extent of 50 per cent. more than by the ordinary method, and no part of the joints are exposed to undue heat; and several may be roasted at one time, each joint being basted with its own dripping. There is a great economy in fuel, and the cooking can be retarded or advanced, by a key which regulates the distance required to obtain any degree of heat. This invention is one of a very ingenious character, and is a vast improvement upon the common smoke jack, to which the machinery is admirably adapted.

Polish for Granite.—The most suitable substance for giving a fine polish to granite is the powder of corundum. It is not mixed with wax, but with lac; and the greater the care taken in effecting the mixture, the finer and more durable will be the polish. It is essential that the powder employed for this purpose should be extremely hard; and hence that of emery is preferred.

Lincoln.—The great desideratum for every densely populated town, a public cemetery, has again become the subject of discussion in Lincoln. It is high time that it was taken up with the determination to effect what would so essentially contribute to the public health. The crowded state of most of the churchyards in Lincoln, which are all exceedingly small, begins to render it imperative that some better provision be made for the interment of the dead. St. Swithin's parish contains 2,600 inhabitants, and the burial-ground is extremely limited. St. Martin's has a population of 2,400, with two small churchyards, one of which is as full as it possibly can be. There is plenty of public land, and it is hoped that a sufficient portion for the purpose will be gladly conceded.——The whole of the heavy castings required for the new city prison have been run in Lincoln, by Messrs. Clayton and Shuttleworth; and last Saturday the same firm ran a loam-sand casting for the cake-mill of Harvey, Mackinder, and Co., which weighs upwards of four tons. The metal of which it is comprised is said to be the largest quantity ever run into one casting in this country.

Stamford.—A meeting under the Stamford Improvement Act, on Tuesday se'nnight, was attended by Pras. Jelley, Esq., mayor, in the chair, and thirteen other commissioners. The clerk read applications for the office of surveyor from the following persons, viz. Mr. Chas. Needham, of Wymondham, Leicestershire; Mr. Jos. Herringshaw, of Bourn; Mr. Hayeby Hobson, of Deeping Fen; Mr. Benj. Pearson, stone-mason, of Stamford; Lieut. Colls, R.M., of Stamford; Mr. Wm. Dixon, engineer, of Boston; Mr. Wm. White, stationer, of Stamford; Mr. Angelo T. B. Mott, civil-engineer, of Gordon-street, Euston-square, London; Mr. Henry Hutchinson, land surveyor, of Walcot, near Stamford; Mr. John Barton, maltster, of Stamford; Mr. Wynne Hill, surveyor, of Easton, near Stamford; and Mr. Wm. Gregory, builder, of Stamford. Mr. Colls was elected by a majority of ten votes, there being eleven for him, one vote for Mr. White, and one for Mr. Hutchinson; for none of the other candidates was there a single vote.

Cleethorpes.—This delightful and noted bathing place has been during the last summer considerably improved. The commissioners under the recent Inclosure Act have been engaged in making roads and allotting out land. During these excavations, a number of ancient coins have been dug up. A fortnight ago, a millstone and several other vestiges of a corn-mill were found, which proves that there has been a mill on that site, but the date is beyond the memory of the oldest inhabitant. As a singular coincidence, the ground on which these antiquities were found is assigned to Mr. Thomas Jackson, a miller by trade. Within the last few years, it is surprising to see what a number of neat and commodious dwelling-houses have been built and fitted up for the reception of visitors.

The terms of subscription to The Builder *are as follows:*

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If more than One Insertion a Reduction will be made.

Advertisements for The Builder *must be forwarded to the Office on or before Wednesday in each week.*

Tenders.

IMPROVEMENTS OF THE CITY OF LONDON IN CONNECTION WITH NEW FARRINGDON-STREET.

Tenders for a house to be built therein for H. Walker, Esq.—J. P. Fendon, Esq., architect:—

Bridger and Ashby	£1,492
Ward	1,480
Smith	1,466
Glenn	1,457

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

Suffolk Lunatic Asylum, Bury St. Edmunds.—Enlargement.—John Henry Borton, Clerk of the Peace.—From 21st December to 22nd January next.

COMPETITIONS.

Earl of Leicester's Monument, at Holkham, cost 4,000 guineas.—R. N. Bacon, Hon. Secretary. Dec. 20.

District Surveyor for the metropolitan parishes of St. George-the-Martyr, and St. Andrew, Holborn-above-the-Bars, and the Liberty of the Rolls.—Testimonials to be sent in up to 30th December. Election next January Sessions.—C. H. Ellis, Clerk of the Peace.

Design for a testimonial to the late G. Clendining, Esq., to be executed at Westport, at a price of 800 guineas.—Dr. Dillon, Infirmary, Castlebar, Mayo, 20 guineas. Jan. 1, 1844.

Premium of a gold medal or money for the best mode of cleansing streets.—March 1, 1844. J. N. G. Gatch, 20, Vere-street.

NOTICES.

TO OUR READERS.

"A Young Mason" *is making a marble table of different colours (4 feet long and 2 feet 6 inches wide), and begs the favour of a design. We hope some one of our readers will oblige him; if not, we will see to it ourselves, but it may be more profitable to set other wits a working.*

"A Correspondent" *calls our attention to the filthy state of the Old St. Pancras-road, from the heaping up and long continuance of mud-scrapings, &c. The road, he says, is in the Metropolitan district, and under its surveyor, who threatens a fine of forty shillings on those who may throw any thing upon it. He asks where is the consistency or justice?*

TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Builder" *requests that we would give the portrait of Sir Christopher Wren. We cannot promise it soon, but will certainly not overlook it.*

"Archimedes" *will have no difficulty in meeting with a second-hand copy of* "Nicholson's Carpenters' Guide," *which, under the circumstances, we would recommend to him; and if any person should have such works, they would do well to inform us, stating the price. We can be of great service in assisting parties to mutually beneficial bargains in this way, and we shall be happy to do so. There are many to whom the money would be of more consequence than the book, and on the other hand, many to whom the book would be a great boon at a moderate price. The school is not yet established; meanwhile, we would recommend him to apply to Mr. Grayson's, Banner-street, Finsbury.*

"R. Bran," Brecon.—*If we make use of the sketch so kindly sent, it will be as a vignette, but we have not determined: we will hold it under the conditions named. Stamped copies of* The Builder, *price 6d., are forwarded from this Office.*

"E. E." *may learn all the particulars of the Building Society of Mr. G. Payne, the Secretary, 12, Chapel-street, Edgware-road.*

"A Poor Carpenter."—*We will undertake to assure him that he shall very shortly have the drawing he asks for in the pages of* The Builder,—*namely* "For a Scroll and Curtail Step." *We could give it at once, but should be more happy to excite the thought and skill of our numerous readers. We therefore incite their efforts, and shall be proud to publish the best.*

"H. W. S.," Cheltenham, *inquires as to the best work on Gothic Architecture. It depends upon the purpose he would apply it to. Pugin's for practice, but they are very expensive. Rickman's is of a popular but less practical character, and at much less expense. Britton's Glossary and Examples are very valuable and not costly. Barr's, and Bloxam's works bring us down to the most popular rank of this class of publications, and they are the cheapest.*

"J. C. R." Hampstead.—*If he could procure a copy of* "Malton's Perspective," *and would apply himself steadily for a few nights copying the diagrams, he would be well-nigh master of perspective. We acquired the knowledge in two hours from that invaluable work.*

"Mr. G. Bucknell," of 9, Trinity-street, Boro', *calls our attention to his patent sea-folding. We shall be glad to seize an opportunity of inspecting it, and, if valuable, communicating a description to our readers.*

"J. West" *will find an answer under* "E. E."

"A Constant Reader" *will find the answer to his first inquiry above, but we dare not undertake to give an opinion as to his investing his money. We incline to think favourably of the matter, but can say no more.*

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